

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCEM-02 OPIC-12 AID-20

DRC-01 /159 W

----- 110314

R 281402Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5116

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 2551

E.O. 11652: ADS DECLAS 12/28/74

TAGS: ENRG, MT, LY, IT

SUBJ: ESSO SHUTDOWN

REF: VALLETTA 2531

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY TIMES OF MALTA REPORTS THAT IN A LETTER TO ESSO GAS STATION OWNERS LOCAL MANAGER HUGH NAUDI SAID: "WE REGRET VERY MUCH TO INFORM YOU THAT, IN VIEW OF THE COMPANY'S PRESENT, AS WELL AS FUTURE, SERIOUS SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL SITUATION, DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL, WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY YOU WITH YOUR REQUIREMENTS AFTER DECEMBER 3*, 1973." NAUDI'S LETTER ADDED THAT "ESSO STANDARD MALTA LTD.'S CONCERTED EFFORT WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO REACH A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION IN ORDER TO AVOID INCURRING FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL LOSSES HAVE UNFORTUNATELY PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL. CONSEQUENTLY,*DUE TO THE PR* AILING AND ANTICIPATED SUPPLY AND PRICE ENVIRONMENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM MARKET, THE COMPANY IS UNABLE TO CONTINUE SUPPLYING AT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERABLE LOSSES INVOLVED..."

2. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THIS LTTER, ESSO GAS STATION OWNERS ASKED THEIR GENERAL RETAILES AND TRADERS UNION (GRTU) REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET WITH MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM XUERE B TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THEIR OPERATIONS. IN A STATEMENT ISSUED DEC. 26 THE GRTU SAID XUERE B EXPRESSED GOM'S INTENTION THAT THE SALE OF GASOLINE FROM ESSO STATIONS WILL GO ON AS USUAL AFTER THE END OF DECEMBER. THERE ARE BETWEEN 30 AND 35 ESSO GAS STATIONS IN MALTA.

3. THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE ESSO SCENARIO IS A REPORT IN THE DEC. 28 TIMES OF MALTA WHICH STATES ESSO GAS STATION OWNERS HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THE POLICE NOT TO LET ANYONE REMOVE COMPANY EQUIPMENT FROM THEIR STATIONS.

4. NAUDI HAS CONFIRMED THE ACCURACY OF THE TIMES OF MALTA *REPORT CONCERNING HIS LETTER TO ESSO GAS STATION OWNERS. HE IS PROCEEDING WITH NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT FOR ESSO STANDARD MALTA LTD. EMPLOYEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL LABOR REGULATIONS. TUCKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, GASOLINE, IMPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VALLETTA 2531
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <26-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, MT, LY, IT
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005